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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary / USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Shortages

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This is UNEVALUATED
 Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Copper, tin and cotton are among the raw materials which are in very short supply in Hungary. There is no foreign exchange available for the time being for further purchases of cotton.
2. Acute shortages of Vanadium, chrome and cobalt have for the time being been alleviated by supplies from the USSR in the form of a credit. 25X1
3. Phenol is supplied in sufficient quantities from Germany. No phenol is imported from Poland.
4. In the food market there are shortages in meat and lard. These are extremely expensive and virtually unobtainable for the average customer. No easing of the situation in the food market is expected, but there will be no shortage of bread. 25X1
5. Hospitals are in great need of cotton wool and hypodermic needles. These articles are unobtainable at pharmacies.
6. The finish of incandescent lamps is poor and the sockets are frequently too short, owing to economy in the use of copper. Ebonite is used for taps in factories and is proving very unsatisfactory.
7. During the summer of 1954 there was a slight improvement in the availability of consumer goods; the shops were better stocked with clothes, materials, and foodstuffs. However, the improvement was not continued and with the need for more articles for export it is unlikely that supplies will be more plentiful in the near future.
1. Comment: The USSR has advanced Hungary \$27,000,000 in the form of vanadium, chrome, cobalt, and consumer goods. 25X1 25X1

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